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THE CONDOR

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J. GRINNELL, Editor

HARRY S. SWARTH, Associate Editor

J. EUGENE LAW

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

Attention of persons especially interested in game conservation is urgently called to the proposed new regulations for the protection of migratory birds, printed on this and following pages. Some significant changes will be noted when comparison is made with the regulations up till now in force. Criticisms and comments are invited by the Secretary of Agriculture; these should be forwarded at once.

With the departure of Mr. Walter P. Taylor to join the staff of the Biological Survey in Washington, the ranks of Pacific Coast ornithologists have lost a useful member. While Taylor is a relatively young man he has already shown marked ability in field work and in faunistic research. But the particular thing which has qualified his activity has been his concentration upon

the idea of wild life conservation. With a good equipment in general knowledge of natural history, and with a certain civic consciousness—these combined with energy and mental alertness—his influence as re-

gards game and bird protection has been far-reaching. It is needless here to recount the activities of the society which he was mainly instrumental in founding and carrying on, and the results which were with greater or less success attained. References to files of THE CONDOR will show many of his reports as Secretary of the California Associated Societies for the Conservation of Wild Life. It seems to us fortunate that Taylor has now entered government service where opportunities for just this kind of work would seem likely to offer in large measure. While for the moment we regret the loss of Taylor's influence here in the West, we can but congratulate him upon his advancement in position and opportunities.

The Cooper Club has sustained a loss in the death of Alphonse Jay, who died from injuries received in an automobile accident on May 25, 1916. Mr. Jay was one of the most active and enthusiastic of bird students in Los Angeles, and he will be sorely missed from the meetings of the Southern Division.

Not long ago a group of California members of the Cooper Ornithological Club were talking informally about the current trend and achievements in ornithology. Some way or another the conversation centered on the relative eminence attained to among living ornithologists, and after much debate the following five were selected as foremost in America in point of scientific output: (1) R. Ridgway, (2) J. A. Allen, (3) L. Stejneger, (4) W. Stone, (5) H. C. Oberholser. It was further concluded, that, as interpreters of our science, in other words, popularizers of ornithology, the following had achieved greatest success, directly or indirectly, in order of merit as named: (1) Frank M. Chapman, (2) Florence Merriam Bailey, (3) John Burroughs, (4) William Dutcher, (5) Louis A. Fuertes.

PROPOSED NEW REGULATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS

Pursuant to the provision of the act of March 4, 1913, authorizing and directing the Department of Agriculture to adopt suitable regulations prescribing and fixing closed seasons for migratory birds (37 Stat., 847), having due regard to zones of temperature, breeding habits, and times and lines of migratory flight, the Department of Agriculture has prepared and hereby makes public, for examination and consideration before final adoption, the following regulations:

Regulation 1. Definitions.

For the purposes of these regulations the